

April 10, 2008

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U.S. Congressman

Mark Steven Kirk

Proudly serving the people of the 10th District of Illinois



**** U.S. Congressman Mark Steven Kirk, Proudly Serving the People of the 10th District of Illinois ****

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Featured Video...



Featured Video of the Week

06/15/09: Congressman Kirk discusses his efforts to fight the rise of "Kush" in the suburbs, a new type of "super-marijuana" that is as expensive as crack cocaine. [Click here to view the video clip.](#)

Kirk In the News...

6/16/2009: [Lawmakers offer 'practical' health reform plan](#)

6/16/2009: [Moderates to Present Their Health Care Plan](#)

6/16/2009: [Rep. Kirk wants tougher penalties for super pot](#)

Please Feel Free to Tell a Friend

E-mail:

Eliminating Suburban Drug Gangs

Federal Support for Suburban Police

Dear Friends,

Did you know that there are over 2,000 documented drug gang members operating in the northern suburbs?

With names like the "Gangster Disciples," "Larry's Original Crew," "Latin Kings" and "Four Corner Hustlers," drug gangs have moved into our communities. These gangs use kids as young as eighth graders as trigger men - leading many young Americans down a path to a wasted life or violent death.

Two years ago, I arranged for full-time federal agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco and Firearms (ATF) to work in our northern suburbs. Last year, we brought forward our first federal indictments of gang leaders - leading to federal convictions with no possibility of parole.

In February, I announced an \$846,000 U.S. Department of Justice grant for a new Northern Illinois Gang Taskforce to coordinate federal and local law enforcement agencies to combat violent drug gangs operating out of Waukegan. The new taskforce allows local law enforcement to pursue federal prosecution and longer sentencing. Facing 20 years in prison instead of less than five, low-level gang members are now more likely to rat out organizations and help the taskforce bring down ring leaders.

Building on these efforts, last month we announced the Top 10 Most Wanted Gang Members of Lake County. ATF and Lake County law enforcement officials joined with me in raising the public profile of these violent gang leaders. After newspapers, radio and television publicized our list of wanted criminals, tips flooded in to law enforcement agencies, resulting in the arrest of three top gang leaders.

What do you think?

Please give me your opinion on whether or not drug gangs are a homeland security danger and if the federal government should directly support local law enforcement in our community.

Tell Me What You Think

Should the federal government provide direct support to local law enforcement to fight the homeland security danger of drug gangs in our community?

- ☐ Yes
☐ No
☐ Don't Know

E-mail:

E-mail:

Send

Submit & Join

Thank you for responding to our survey.

[If you are having trouble, click here.](#)

Please feel free to contact me on this or any other issue facing the Congress. I can be reached by phone at (847) 940-0202 or online at www.house.gov/kirk.

It is an honor to represent you in Congress.

Very truly yours,

Sincerely,



Mark Kirk
Member of Congress

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